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25X1X 1. Disgruntled North Korean soldiers frequently consider deserting to South Korean guerrilla forces or surrendering to United Nations troops. However, two factors discourage these ambitions:

- a. They fear that their relatives will be thrown into prison if they desert to South Korean guerrilla forces.
- b. Communist propaganda leads them to believe that United Nations prisoners of war are cruelly treated and may be killed.

2. The Political Department of the North Korean Army is responsible for indoctrinating and propagandizing North Korean troops. Some themes being used by the department in early 1952 to discourage North Korean troops from deserting or surrendering were the following:

- a. When North Korean soldiers are captured by ROK or other United Nations forces, they are beaten and tortured until they divulge military secrets. Then they are usually killed.
- b. Even if prisoners are sent to United Nations prisoner of war camps, they must live in unsanitary quarters under strict surveillance.
- c. In one United Nations prisoner of war camp some prisoners were forcibly stripped of their clothes and put in a truck lined with barbed wire. Then the truck was driven away at great speed and the prisoners were cut and bruised.
- d. South Korean prisoner of war camps are enclosed by walls 10 to 15 meters

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thick, and have special rooms equipped with electrical torture devices.

The continuous repetition of this type of propaganda has caused many North Korean soldiers who desire to surrender to remain with their units in combat. Despite these beliefs, however, some disaffected North Korean troops still consider the guerrilla forces in the Mach'ollyong area their last resort in case life becomes too difficult in the army, and have made plans to reach that area if possible.

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